

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 15 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein. Please amend Claims 10 to 13 as shown below.

1 to 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a probe medium that contains a probe capable of specifically binding to a target substance, comprising the steps of:

dissolving the probe in a solvent in which the probe is soluble;

separating the probe from the solvent by ~~acting on~~ adding to the solvent a substance for solubilizing the probe in an organic solvent; and

dissolving the probe in the organic solvent by adding the organic solvent to the probe,

wherein the substance for solubilizing the probe is a cationic surfactant.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of producing the probe medium according to claim 10, wherein an amount of the substance for solubilizing the probe in the organic solvent is adjusted ~~on a basis of~~ based on a product between a length of the probe and a mole number of the probe.

12. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method of producing the probe medium according to claim 10, wherein an amount of the substance for solubilizing the

probe in the organic solvent is adjusted ~~on a basis of~~ based on an amount of the probe separated from the solvent.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of immobilizing a probe on a substrate, the probe being capable of specifically binding to a target substance, said method comprising the steps of:

preparing a probe medium comprising (i) the probe, (ii) an organic solvent comprising a coupling agent for coupling the probe to the substrate, and (iii) a substance for solubilizing the probe in the organic solvent; and

providing the probe medium on the substrate by spotting,

wherein the coupling agent comprises silane, and

wherein the substance for solubilizing the probe is a cationic surfactant.

14 to 16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the probe medium further comprises a solvent in which the probe is soluble.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein an amount of the substance for solubilizing the probe in the organic solvent is adjusted within a range in which white turbidity of the probe medium can be observed.